

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Federal Supply Service
Washington, D.C. 20406

MAR 9 - 1970

Mr. Paul H. Riley
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (I&I)
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Mr. Riley:

This is in reply to your letter of February 2, and confirms the results of the meeting which Mr. Ritter held with you on March 3, regarding security cabinets.

Since Mr. Abersfeller wrote to you on June 4, 1969, we have taken special precautions to insure that security containers produced by Hillside Metal Products Company are satisfactory for agency use, both from the standpoint of the protection of classified data as well as design and workmanship. Since that time, we have received reports of deficiencies on lots of cabinets totaling 55 out of over 2,800 shipped by that company. In cases where deficiencies have been reported, corrective action has been taken.

Because of the dissatisfaction of some agencies, particularly the military services, Hillside Metal Products Company has redesigned their cabinet to remove the sliding hood which was installed to offer protection against the surreptitious removal of documents from the front of the cabinet. While this device provides, in our opinion, a very effective means of protection, it will be eliminated in a redesigned cabinet which will be available as soon as the supply of the current model cabinets has been exhausted. Approximately 250 of these current model cabinets are in the inventory of Hillside Metal Products Company at this time. It is understood that you will withdraw your objections to the requisitioning of these cabinets by the Department of Defense activities, until the stock is exhausted, upon our assurance that each one will be given a full and detailed inspection prior to release for shipment. As soon as the current stock has been exhausted, the newly designed cabinet will be available.

We invite representatives of the Department of Defense to participate in the testing of the cabinet at our laboratory in Franconia, Virginia, for all operating characteristics and the examination for workmanship. Further, we invite your

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representatives to participate in the inspection of production model cabinets prior to acceptance in order that we may develop a common approach to acceptance inspection.

We have requested the manufacturer to examine the possibility of developing a kit which could be used in the field, to prevent the removal of the sliding hood. We are also examining means of accomplishing this in our own laboratory. We expect to learn in the very near future if this is possible and will advise you accordingly.

We appreciate your assistance in moving the existing stock of cabinets, and give you the assurance that they will be satisfactory to your agencies with the possible exception of the sliding hood.

Sincerely,



L. E. SPANGLER
Acting Commissioner